

DUSTY ROCKS

JUNE

2009



ROCK AND ARROWHEAD CLUB

P.O. BOX 1803

KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97601

WWW.KLAMATHROCKCLUB.ORG

~ DUSTY ROCKS ~

JUNE. 2009 ~ ROCK AND ARROWHEAD CLUB ~ KLAMATH FALLS OREGON

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Greeter/Door Prize.....Alyssa Carnes
Refreshment.....Amanda Newnham
Historian.....Kathi Milem
Librarian.....Alyssa Carnes
Claims Rep.....Garwin Carlson
Field Trips.....Jeff Eastburn
Show Chair.....Amanda Newnham
Asst Show ChairMarvin Stump
Safety Officer.....Jeff Eastburn
Club Webmaster.....Charlie Wyckoff

Meetings are held at the Klamath County Museum Meeting Room – Main & Spring Streets, using the WEST ENTRANCE. Meetings are held on 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm with the exception of August and also December when we have our Christmas Luncheon and Party.

Visitors are cordially invited:

Dues are \$10.00 per year per adult (\$18 for couples), \$7.50 ages 16-18 and free for juniors ages 15 and under whose parents pay dues. They are paid for the year beginning September 1st and ending August 30th. You are delinquent as of October 1st and are given a 60 day grace period. After December 31st your name will be removed from the mailing list.

General Objectives of the Club:

To promote popular interest, knowledge and understanding in the various earth sciences, as in Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology and Lapidary and other related subjects. To sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons interested therein.

Helping Others:

The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemoratives, airmail, pre-canceled, foreign and "ordinary" stamps of all values. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to benefit any charity deemed worthy by the NFMS Endowment Fund.

We also collect pop lid tabs which will be sold with the proceeds going to support and purchase dialysis equipment.

THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is published 10 times a year (not published in December or August). Copies are sent to each member's household. The cost is included in your annual dues.

Two free copies of the AFMS NEWSLETTER are mailed to each member club. Subscriptions are available at \$3.50 for 9 issues (not published in July or August and the December/January issues are combined).

Send payment to:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
PO Box 26523 Oklahoma City, Ok. 73126.

We are affiliated with

- [Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)
- [American Federation of Mineralogical Societies](#)
- [Oregon Council of Rock & Mineral Clubs](#)

Newsletter Editor

Amanda Newnham
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Dusty Rocks

Volume 50, Issue 6

June 2009

Klamath Rock & Arrowhead Club

Minutes of the May 2009 Meeting

Next Meeting

- Monday, June 8, 7 pm
- REFRESHMENTS:
Cindy Howland and Heidi Eli
- PROGRAM: Gold Panning

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Meeting was called to order and Doris Newnham had everyone stand for the pledge of allegiance and then we had the new guests stand and introduce themselves.

Door prize

Birthday contributions some people put into the kitty.

Minutes stand as corrected

Treasurers report Jodean is not here tonight

Correspondence none tonight

Sunshine report Chris Chance sent something to Mr. Shaffer.

Librarians report Alyssa is sick

Historians report Kathi is sick

N.W.F. report Kathi is sick

Other reports none

Old business we need to know who is coming to Hampton Butte

Doing a silent auction at Hampton Butte. We are having a potluck dinner and these people are bringing things, Spaghetti and garlic bread Chris Chance, Main dish and strawberries Leah Stump, Dessert Chuck Newnham, Tri-Tip and baked beans Mike, Lori, Holly Zumbrun . Ambrosia Salad Cindy Howland, Angel food cake Jeff, Jennie Eastburn.

The Running Y show was successful and the vendors wanted to do it again next year and have two days to do this next year but the fall may not be a good time to do this. Marshal said the fall art show is a parking lot deal and it goes over very well. Charlie says we need more advertising for the rock show at the Running Y show next year.

New business the Sunstone trip is on June 27th, 28th, 29th.

Davis Creek (Lassen Creek) July 18th, 19th.

Field trips Doris and Gene Newnham went out

Marvin and Leah went to the Sunstones Area

Chuck Newnham also found a great piece of green wood to make a good sphere out of maybe.

Chuck Newnham said next year 2010 Rock Show is Geodes and Thunder Eggs. Club thought it would be a great idea.

Tonight's refreshments are Charlie and Doreen thank you so much.

Next months refreshments are Cindy Howland and Heidi Eli.

Chuck has a book for sale for \$15.00 dollars. They have 7 left.

Chuck showed a fluorite specimen from China.

The program is by Mr. And Mrs. Jacobson thank you.

Doris adjourned the meeting and they did the intarsia program.

President's Message

Hello Fellow Rock Hounds



The Memorial weekend was very memorable for those who was there at the Hampton Butte campout. The weather was warm with one evening a bit of rain. A person did not have to go very far to find some nice pieces of rock. Everyone did real good in finding rocks. It seems that with the amount of hunting rocks through out all these years that would not be any left but nice pieces of wood is being found each time that the club has gone up.

Our camp fire seemed to



have got-

UPDATE ON FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips are

scheduled. Final details will be worked out as we get closer to the dates.

Sunstones June 27 & 28, the fourth weekend in June:

This field trip is to the club's claims northeast of Lakeview, give or take 170 miles from K. Falls. Sunstones can be picked up on the ground or can be hardrock mined in the pit. There are no trees, sagebrush being the only vegetation, so bring shade, chairs, and lots of water. Probably a pot luck dinner will be scheduled. A map of the sunstone area and directions on how to get there is included in this Bulletin.



ten bigger this year. Plus we added more to the group. The pot luck was almost rained out but everyone stayed and it was delicious. The silent auction is what surprised me. We had everyone in camp well almost everyone join in the 2 rounds and was a lot of fun to see everyone pick an item and stay with it. Thank you very much. It is always a pleasure to see people enjoy themselves and be able to have fun and sit around the campfire reminiscing about old times.

Our program this month is going to an interesting one as well. I do hope everyone will be able to be at the

meeting.

There maybe a field trip planned if there is enough to sign up for it in August.

I do want to thank all of people that has been putting on the programs this year. It is pleasure to learn how things are done.

We do have the sunstone trip this month and the obsidian trip next month. I do hope you will be able to join in the search of beautiful rocks.

Thank you , Doris Newnham

Items to bring for collecting sunstones on the surface would be a small rake, shovel, a screen (quarter-inch and/or half inch), and a bag or bucket to put the sunstones in. Sunstones lying on the surface can be collected without the need for any tools. All that is needed is a bag or bucket to put the sunstones in.

Hardrock mining can be done in the pit, so bring hammers, pry-bars, and lots of muscle and fortitude.

There is no toilet in the area, so arrangements to have a porta-potti or other toilet facility on-site needs to be made.

Lassen Creek obsidian July 18 and 19, the third

weekend in July: Details still to be worked out. There is an unimproved forested campground that holds lots and lots of people at Lassen Creek. A Forest Service free-use permit is required to collect obsidian. The permit can be obtained at the Davis Creek Store that is located on Highway 395, eight or nine miles south of Lassen Creek

The obsidian area is located northeast of Alturas, just south of the California-Oregon border in the South Warner Mountains. The road into the campground will be signed from Highway 395.

Marv Stump

COME ONE—COME—ALL TO THE JUNE PROGRAM

The June program promises to be a great program. It will be on gold panning, including how to use a gold pan and sluice box. Ron Skog, S and S Gems from Jacksonville, will give this program. As mentioned before, Ron has a gold mine on the south side of Mt. Ashland and volunteered to come to our June meeting to give this pro-

gram. He will bring equipment and demonstrate how it works plus slides of the claim area. There may be an opportunity for a field trip to Ron's claims later in the year to try your luck at gold panning.

Marv Stump



Where to Find Gold in the United States

Naturally occurring gold can be found in all fifty states. This gold may be still embedded in rock, or it may have been deposited in a placer (a natural concentration of gold particles in sand or gravel) after weathering out of the rock—or it may be found in plant tissues, or seawater, or even present in minute quantities in beach sand. If your interest in gold is more than academic, the trick is to find locations with enough gold to make it worthwhile to try to recover some of it.

The states in which major amounts of gold have been found are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Although the records are generally not very good, small amounts of gold have also been found in Indiana, Main, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont—which taken together with the big producers means that in three out of five

states, you have a decent chance to find a little for yourself.

Where in these states should you look? Government records, in the form of geological reports and maps, will tell you where and in what quantity gold has been recovered in the past. These records have been summarized for many states in books such as the Placer Gold Deposits series. And because gold is washed down into placers, areas where a lot of gold has been found by earlier miners will—even if the placer was played out—very likely have gold again.

Gravity is the reason gold collects in placers; gold is six to seven times heavier than ordinary sediments. Because it takes a lot more force for a stream of water to move gold, the gold will tend to get caught in cracks and crevices, to settle out where the flow slows, and to work its way to the bottom of deposited sediments. Knowing this makes it easier to figure out where in a stream to pan for gold. Dry streambeds can contain placers of gold as well, laid down by long-gone flows of water. Unless water is nearby, though, you'll need

equipment other than a gold pan to recover it, such as a metal detector or drywasher.

One more reason for checking government records before you set out to hunt for gold: some public lands are off limits to prospecting, while other areas have already been claimed by earlier prospectors.

*Much of the information in this article comes from: *Gold Mining in the 21st Century*, by Dave McCracken; *You Can Find Gold with a Metal Detector*, by Charles Garrett & Roy Lagal; *Dry Washing for Gold*, by James Klein.

Reprinted from
Mamasminerals.com

One would think that this would be the perfect time of the year to head over to the sunstone finding area and check things out. What with life happenings, the thunderstorms and garden time, we haven't made it happen yet.

As most of you know, we moved into our new house last September and promptly went to work over in French Glen. That didn't leave much time to do much of anything around our house before winter set in.

Since we haven't had a chance for many rockhounding opportunities, we have been doing flower beds and gardening. Robert moved the big petrified wood chunks and jasper chunks and agates around in the front area to outline my flower beds. The tulips, daffodils and other flowers enhanced the rocks and it was just beautiful! And, come to find out, our neighbors have a rock saw and sawed a couple of our cool pieces to make more rocks for us.

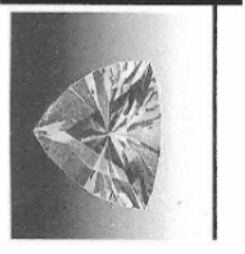
Then I started a small herb rock garden in the large back garden area. I have some of my choice pieces in there – crystallized agates, special petrified woods, agatized jaspers – just cool stuff! I'm debating about putting out some of my thundereggs in there, too.

I went over to Medford and did the Spring Garden Show there. I had a booth next to a nice man who made stepping stones. I had brought along extra sunstones (uncut, unpolished) and gave them to him to use in his stepping stones. I think I've got him convinced to make a trip out to the sunstone area. He was pretty enthused about adding those sparkly stones to his creations. He made nice stepping stones!

We also did the Bird Festival at Veterans Park and handed out a couple of membership applications and talked to quite a few people interested in rockhounding.

See you at next meeting!

Linda Watson & Robert Gresham



COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE FACETERS' GUILD

2009 Faceting Conference


June 26-28, 2009, in Clackamas, Oregon

Conference Fee includes both seminars and catered lunch on Saturday and on Sunday, and an invitation to evening social events, the vendors, demonstrations, and exhibits. Conference fee is \$95 before May 20, \$105 after May 20. Extra lunch tickets are \$20 each. Extra lunch tickets for guests may be purchased at time of registration.

Conference registration will begin February 26, 2009, with on-line access to the registration form (website below). The Conference will be held at the Monarch Hotel, near I-205 and Sunnyside, about twenty minutes from the Portland Airport.

Featured Speakers include:
 Robert Strickland, author of the invaluable faceting tool, GEMCAD...
 Robert Long, who co-wrote the Facet Design series of faceting books and faceting-related software with the late Norman Steele...
 Terry Clark, Dust Devil Sunstone Mine, on sunstones, geology, history...
 John Bailey of gemstoneartist.com, on faceting sunstones, polishing, and designing gemstones...
 John Franke, the Facet Shoppe, will set up shop and talk about synthetic and simulated rough...
 Burt Grytness will have rough and stories from Brazil, including a new bag of beautiful amethyst and citrine...
 Ajilbade (Ade) Ademola of Androgems in Nigeria, will come to the Conference with tourmaline and emeralds from his mine...
 Roy James, Beta Diamonds, will be there with his polishing products...

We continue talking with potential vendors and demonstrators of machines, supplies, and gadgets...



Columbia-Willamette
Faceters' Guild

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June has three traditional birthstones : pearls, moonstone, and Alexandrite. Unlike most gems, pearls have organic origins, being created in certain kinds of mollusks. Although they can be found naturally, most commercial pearl sources are cultured in oyster farms. The substance which makes up a pearl is mostly aragonite, a soft carbonate mineral. Pearls have a delicate translucence making them a popular gemstone.

The pearl is created when a grain of sand or rock fragment gets inside the clam or oyster. It irritates the animal which responds by coating the offending grain with layer after layer of shell material. Pearls formed in the inside surface of the shell are usually irregular in shape and of little value. Pearls formed within the tissue of the animal itself, result in a spherical or pear shaped pearl.

The colour of the pearl depends on what species of animal it forms in, and the environment in which it was created. White is the most common colour, but pearls can also be found in shades of black, cream, gray, blue, yellow, lavender and green.

Japan is famous for it's cultured pearls. They are bred in large oyster beds in Japan's waters. A tiny irritant is introduced into the fleshy part of two or three year old oysters. These oysters are fed for anywhere from seven to nine years before being harvested.

The largest known pearl is called the Pearl of Asia. It is three inches long and two inches across. The pearl was a gift from the Shah Jahan of India to his wife (he also built her the Taj Mahal!) An Indian story explains that pearls were dewdrops from heaven which fell into the sea. Shellfish caught these dewdrops at sunrise during the time of the full moon. Indian warriors decorated their swords with pearls which were said to symbolize the tears and sorrow brought by swords. As early as 2000 BC in China, pearls were believed to represent wealth, power and long life. Arabs and Persians believed pearls were a cure for insanity as well as a few diseases. Even today, low grade pearls are ground and used for medicine in the orient.

June's second birthstone is the moonstone. Moonstones are named for the bluish white spots within them, that when held up to light, project a silvery play of color very much like the moon. When the stone is moved back and forth, the brilliant silvery rays appear to move about, like moonbeams playing over water.

Moonstones belong to the feldspar family of minerals. Feldspars of gem quality are aluminosilicates, minerals containing aluminum, silicon and oxygen, that are mixed with sodium and potassium. The best moonstones are from Sri Lanka. They are also found in the Alps, Malagasy, Burma and India.

Pliny, believed that moonstone changed in appearance with the phases of the moon, a belief that persisted until the sixteenth century. The ancient Romans believed the image of Diana, goddess of the moon, was enclosed within it. Moonstones were believed to have the power to bring victory, health and wisdom to those who wore it.

In India, the moonstone is considered a sacred stone, often displayed on a yellow cloth, also a sacred color. The stone is believed to bring good fortune, brought on by a spirit that lives within the stone.

June's third birthstone is the Alexandrite, named after Prince Alexander of Russia who was to later become Czar Alexander II in 1855). Discovered in 1839 on the prince's birthday, Alexandrite was found in an emerald mine in the Ural Mountains of Russia.

Alexandrite is a rare and very expensive gem which possesses a chameleon like quality. In sunlight, the stone appears greenish. The same stone under artificial light, would show a reddish hue! This gem is part of the chrysoberyl family. The unusual colours are believed to be produced by the presence of chromium.

There is little lore about this gem because it was discovered so recently. In Russia the stone is a favorite because it reflects the Russian national colours of green and red. Russians believed the stone would bring good luck.

JUNE WORD SEARCH - OBSIDIAN

Apache Tears	M A G N E S I U M A D R O W S	Medicine Lake
Arrowhead	E Q V O L C A N O P T E U I N	Mineral
Black	D G L A S S X Y L A Q D G R O	Mirrors
Crystalline	I J K L M N O H F C T R S O W	Obsidian
Felsic Lava	C B A W A R R O W H E A D N F	Pink
Flint	I L M N P U M I C E Q Y R L L	Pumice
Glass	N A I D I S B O O T H A B A A	Rainbow
Igneous Rock	E Z F L I N T Q R E S K V R K	Red
Iron	L L O B L A C K G A T P B E E	Snowflake
Mafic	A A I G N E O U S R O C K N N	Stone Age
Magnesium	K R E G A E N O T S J H F I D	Sword
	E M A F I C C S R O R R I M M	Volcano
	C R Y S T A L L I N E K N I P	
	A V A L C I S L E F O A Q Y U	
	Y E L L O W X Q W O B N I A R	

Obsidian is a naturally occurring [glass](#) formed as an extrusive [igneous rock](#). It is produced when [felsic lava](#) extruded from a [volcano](#) cools without crystal growth. Obsidian is commonly found within the margins of [rhyolitic](#) lava flows known as **obsidian flows**, where the chemical composition (high silica content) induces a high viscosity and polymerization degree of the lava. The inhibition of atomic diffusion through this highly viscous and polymerized lava explains the lack of crystal growth. Because of the lack of crystal structure, obsidian blade edges can reach almost molecular thinness, leading to its ancient use as projectile points, and its modern use as surgical [scalpel](#) blades.^[1]

Origin and properties

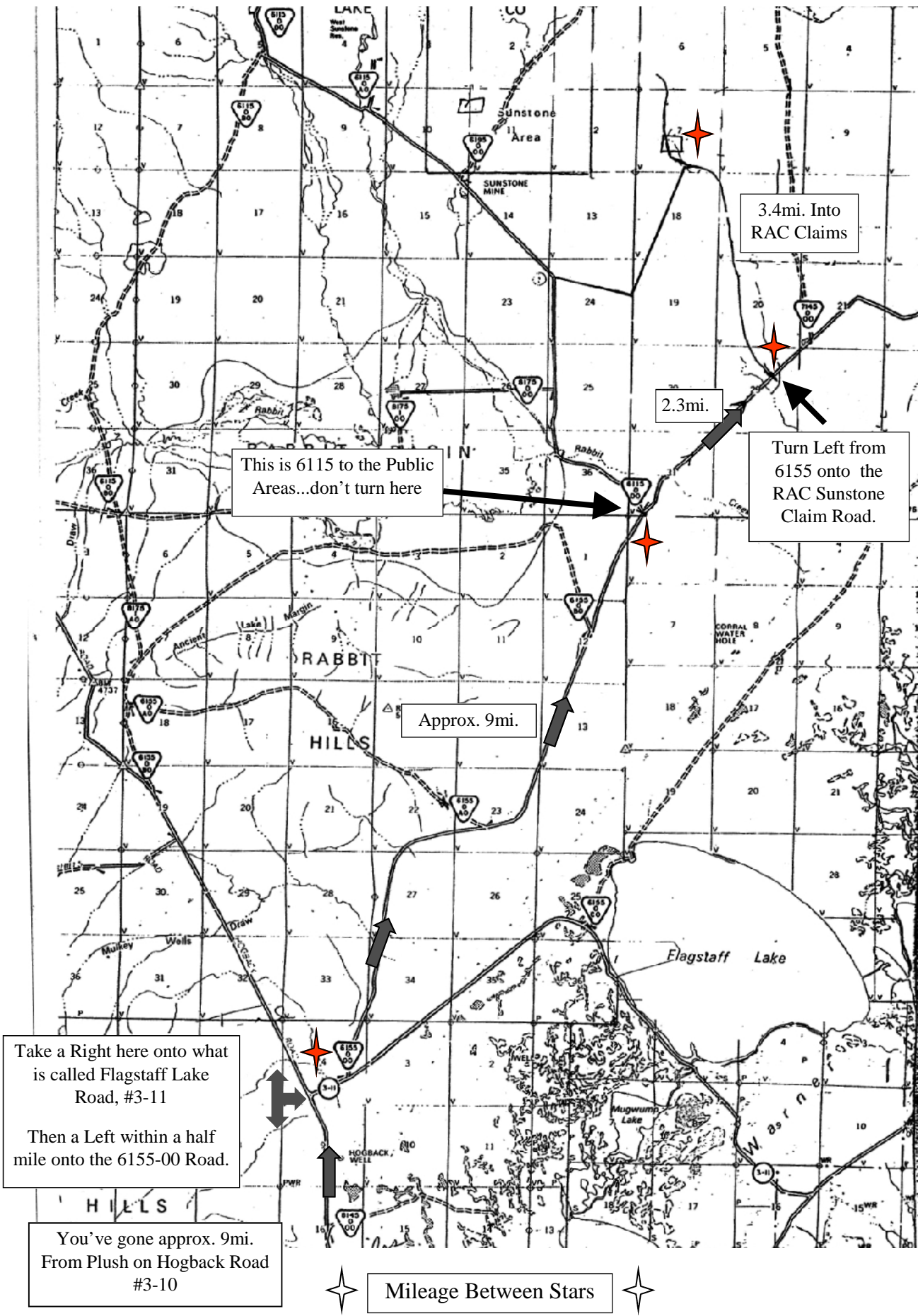
[Pliny's Natural History](#) features volcanic glass called "Obsidianus", so named from its resemblance to a stone found in Ethiopia by one Obsius.^[2]

Obsidian is [mineral](#)-like, but not a true mineral because as a glass it is not [crystalline](#); in addition, its composition is too complex to comprise a single mineral. It is sometimes classified as a [mineraloid](#). Though obsidian is dark in color similar to [mafic](#) rocks such as [basalt](#), obsidian's composition is extremely [felsic](#). Obsidian consists mainly of SiO₂ ([silicon dioxide](#)), usually 70% or more. Crystalline rocks with obsidian's composition include [granite](#) and [rhyolite](#). Because obsidian is [metastable](#) at the earth's surface (over time the glass becomes fine-grained mineral crystals), no obsidian has been found that is older than [Cretaceous](#) age. This breakdown of obsidian is accelerated by the presence of water. Obsidian has low water content when fresh, typically less than 1% water by weight^[3], but becomes progressively hydrated when exposed to groundwater, forming [perlite](#). [Tektites](#) were once thought by many to be obsidian produced by [lunar](#) volcanic eruptions, though few scientists now adhere to this hypothesis.

Pure obsidian is usually dark in appearance, though the color varies depending on the presence of impurities. [Iron](#) and [magnesium](#) typically give the obsidian a dark green to brown to black color. A very few samples are nearly colorless. In some stones, the [inclusion](#) of small, white, radially clustered crystals of [cristobalite](#) in the black glass produce a blotchy or snowflake pattern (*snowflake obsidian*). It may contain patterns of gas bubbles remaining from the lava flow, aligned along layers created as the molten rock was flowing before being cooled. These bubbles can produce interesting effects such as a golden sheen (*sheen obsidian*) or a rainbow sheen (*rainbow obsidian*).

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the Rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

**Klamath Rock and Arrowhead Club
Sunstone Area Map**



Take a Right here onto what is called Flagstaff Lake Road, #3-11
Then a Left within a half mile onto the 6155-00 Road.

You've gone approx. 9mi.
From Plush on Hogback Road #3-10

This is 6115 to the Public Areas...don't turn here

Approx. 9mi.

2.3mi.

Turn Left from 6155 onto the RAC Sunstone Claim Road.

3.4mi. Into RAC Claims

★ Mileage Between Stars ★